



UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

February 2, 2002

Page # 03

Alan R Stewart
Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

In re Application of:
Mendoza, et al
Application No.: 09/843,542
Filed: April 27, 2001
Attorney Docket No: 2316.1502USP1

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on your petition received in the Patent and Trademark Office on December 21, 2001, treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2)(ii) to convert the above identified application to a Provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 111(b) and 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

The petition is granted.

The application will be processed in the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) as a Provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 111(b) and 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2), including the assignment of a new Provisional application number.

The Provisional application serial number is 60/331,334. The filing receipt for the Provisional application number will be communicated to applicant by OIPE in due course.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Betty Robinson", is written over a horizontal line.

Betty Robinson
Office of Initial Patent Examination